

Round the Soviet Union

NEW SNOW LEOPARD HABITATS HAVE BEEN FOUND BY KIRGIZ OASE WARDENS IN CENTRAL ASIA, where the powerful animals control large areas of the upper Kugai and Terkol Ala Tau mountain ridges. State protective measures have also helped increase the number of goats and other animals living high in the mountains.

EVEN THE SMALLEST AD-MIXTURES OF 30 CHEMICAL ELEMENTS IN WATER CAN BE DETECTED BY LATVIAN SCIENTISTS. The new chemicals can identify any of the elements down to a concentration of a tenth of a thousandth of one per cent. They will be especially useful in quality control of sea and fresh water.

A NEW ELECTRONIC SYNTHESIZER, THE KOMPI, REPRODUCES NOT ONLY THE SOUNDS OF A FLUTE, VIOLIN AND ORGAN, BUT THE SINGING OF A BIRD, THE SINGING OF A STREAM, THE RUSTLE OF LEAVES. Designed by the amateur design shop Melodia, in Moscow, it is portable, weighing only 33 pounds. Experts speak highly of its sound quality.

A MUD VOLCANO IN THE CASPIAN'S CHELEKEN PENINSULA HAS BEGUN CHANGING COLOURS, LIKE A CHAMELEON. THE CRATER'S SMALL LAKE HAS ROSE-COLOURED WATER UNTIL RECENTLY, WHEN IT TURNED A DEEP GREEN. Chemical reactions in the crater are usually judged by the colour of its lake. The deep green is the result of oil seeping upward from the depths to the lake.

KHAKASSIA

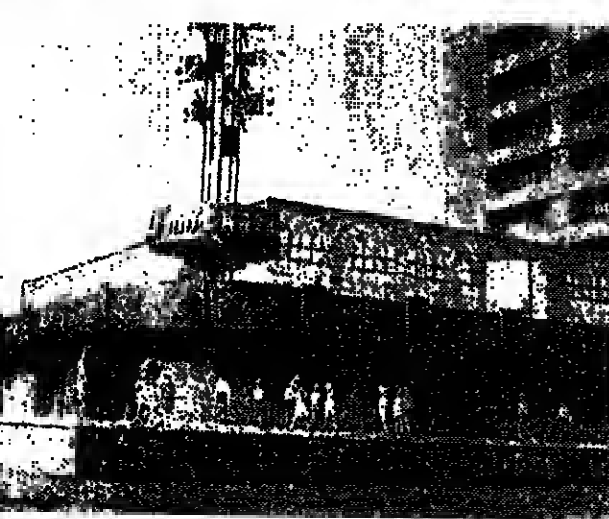
Khakassia with its amazingly picturesque and varied landscapes has been called the "Siberian Switzerland". And here, in the south of the Krasnoyarsk Territory they are certainly remarkable.

The year 1930 saw the establishment of the Khakassian Autonomous Region with the capital Abakan situated on the confluence of the Abakas and Yenisei rivers.

Until the mid-19th century, settlement of modern Khakassians and the development of its natural resources were slow. It was the October Revolution which gave to the Khakass people the opportunity for free economic and cultural development in co-operation with other peoples of the Soviet Union.

Khakass scholars devised a system of writing for their language, and this opened up new possibilities for the development of their unique culture. Teaching at local educational establishments is in the Khakass language. Books and newspapers are published, and radio and television programmes are broadcast in the national language. There are a Khakass Regional Drama Theatre and a local history museum.

The Khakass, who in the past were almost all cattle-breeding or hunters are today to be found in many different professions. They are skilled workers, technologists, engineers, scientists, doctors, actors and artists. The Khakass of world



The Fairy-Tale Puppet Theatre in Abakan.



Khakass girl.

lama include Nikolai Ketanov, a major Turkologist, who is Professor at Kazan University, and archaeologist Leonid Kyziasov, Professor at Moscow University. Khakassia today is an economically developed area of the Soviet Union. The 6,000-megawatt Krasnoyarskaya HEP, located in the region, the biggest of its kind in the world, has been producing electricity for a long time. Still more power will be generated by the Sayano-Sudzhenskaya HEP which is also being built on the Yenisei River. Other major projects under construction are the Minusinsk Electrical Engineering Complex, twelve factories of which are already commissioned, the Sayany Aluminium Smelter and others. Abakassvongomash, the country's biggest producer of 20-tonne containers and flat trucks designed to carry them by railway, is also sited in Khakassia. It is planned at Abakan to build a large freight railway wagon plant.

Furnace reaches designed capacity

Designed production capacity has been reached by the shell furnace of the Leningrad Electric Combined Heat Station in the town of Ostok in the central part of Russia.

This modern complex metallurgical plant which is an initial product for the electric smelter at the Ostok. When the mill is made operational in the second half of the year, this country will have steel produced without losses.

The first furnace of the Ostok is designed to produce 425 thousand tonnes of steel a year. The powerful industrial facilities are reliably protecting the environment from pollution.

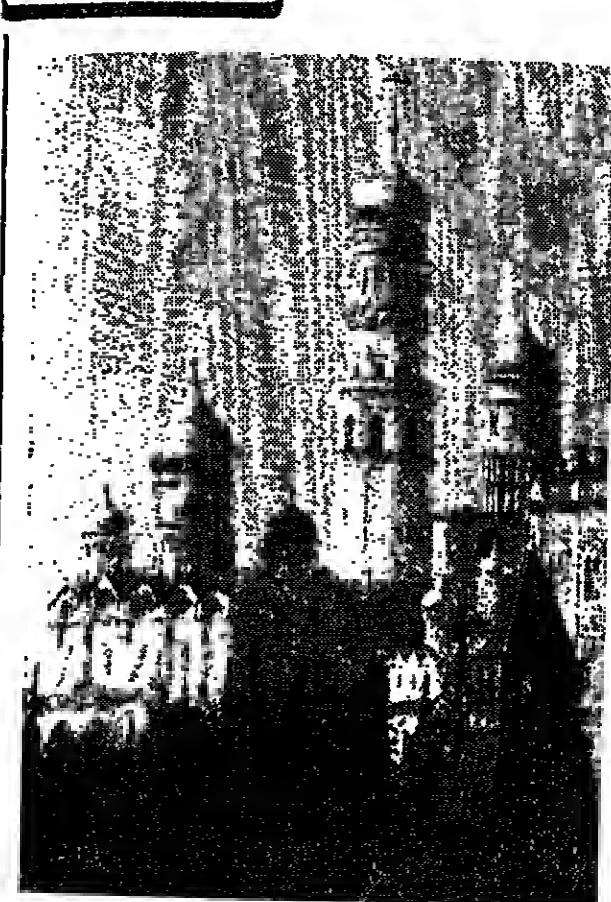
Profitable 'fire'

The underground 'fire' started three and a half years ago at the Gneditsky field in the Chernigov Region, the Ukraine has paid for it completely and has been bringing in profit. This conclusion was reached by specialists who have calculated the cost of fuel which has been reduced by the in-situ combustion method.

This method consists in injecting oil with air pumped to the layer. Heat produced in the way makes oil less viscous and brings it to the surface.

At the Gneditsky oil field the official life was started a depth of nearly two metres. With its help, several wells have been put back into operation after being damaged as completely exhausted. Six others increasing their rate of production.

Places to visit



Assumption Cathedral

The Cathedral of the Assumption was built five hundred years ago under the guidance of the Italian architect, Aristide Fioravanti. For several years artists and restorers have worked painstakingly on the inside of the Cathedral, particularly on the iconostasis which contains a rare collection of ancient Russian paintings.

Restoration work has now been completed on the 13th-century Cathedral which combines the traditions of ancient Russian and Italian Renaissance architecture. Inside are 10th- and 17th-century wall paintings and icons dating from the 16th to 19th centuries. Until the 18th century, the Cathedral served as a burial place for grand dukes and tsars.

Experiment for the third millennium

In one of the former outskirts of Leningrad, construction of a new residential estate has been launched. It is designed for conducting a large-scale construction experiment. The estate must embody the town of the city of the future, the one in which the Leningraders will live in the third millennium.

The experimental urban construction complex will be located in a picturesque place, not far from Poklonnyy Hill near the Srednyy Lakes.

Without leaving themselves from the rhythm of life of modern industrial city, the local residents will be able to rest in natural settings excellently. They will not be hindered by the noise of the city enterprises or transport. Although the city quarters are hampered by busy main roads, the peace and quiet will be reliably preserved.

Science and technology

DIAMONDS RECEIVE 'FINGERPRINTS'

Can a gem stone make an 'imprint'? And if so how is it possible? The unique capacity of diamonds to 'dactyloscope' does make sense — it is possible, without taking the stone from its lining, to identify the individual qualities of the stone from its own peculiar imprint and therefore not confuse it with any other homogeneous mineral.

The method for studying cut crystals with the help of laser was put forward at the Leningrad Mining Institute.

By comparing a large number of photographs, it has become possible to prove that no two diamonds have the same 'light' pattern just as no two people have the same fingerprints.

ONE MORE MEDICINE

OBTAINED FROM PROPOLIS

Propolis, an ointment based on propolis, a substance which together with beeswax is used by bees to make their hives, has been produced for the first time in this country by a chemical-pharmaceutical factory in Tallinn, capital of Soviet Estonia.

The medicinal properties of propolis were known even to Egyptian priests. However, modern medicine has only shown its active interest in the substance in the last ten years. It has been established that pro-

pol has a wide range of medicinal properties: it stops inflammation, cures microbial infections and mycotic diseases, and also functions as an anesthetic and regenerator.

Having set themselves the task of developing propolis, a laboratory at the Tallinn factory managed to kill two birds with one stone: in addition to the production of pure propolis, they found an optimal base for it which enhances its salutary properties. The latter has already shown itself to be effective remedy for burns, wounds which won't heal, trophic ulcers, psoriasis, and eczema.

The urban developers intend to carry out an experiment on testing new types of housing. A building will be built for small families. Accommodated in small houses will be the aged and the invalids to whom it is difficult to raise themselves to higher floors. Their relatives will be able to receive flats in the neighbouring residential units.

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A TRAVELLER'S DIARY

Researchers of the National Library have decoded an elaborate medieval Armenian manuscript. It is the diary of the Armenian itinerant merchant Ovanes Ter-Davtyan. In the 17th century this traveller visited India, Nepal and Tibet.

The history of this manuscript is quite interesting. Thanks to Roberto Culpanian, a historian and philologist, the Yerevan scholars learnt that it is now kept in the National Library of Portugal. Later the Matensdarian obtained a microfilm of the manuscript, which contains 44 pages, each more than half a metre long.

The diary discusses various aspects of the socio-economic life in these countries, the contacts with their residents, and their cultural traditions and rites. Chronologically, Ter-Davtyan was the fourth European in the world to leave behind written evidence of his travels to Tibet. His predecessors were Catholic missionaries.

VIEWPOINT

ALLIANCE BETWEEN SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY

Soviet industry is gradually switching over to complete automation. In view of this, increased demands are being made of higher education. In an interview with our correspondent, Academician Ivan ORAZTSOV, Minister of Higher and Specialized Secondary Education of the RSFSR, describes the sort of specialists turned out by Soviet colleges and universities.

I believe that there are two spheres in which higher education influences such processes, he said. In the first place, we train highly competent specialists to design unmanned factories, shops and flexible technologies, which can be quickly re-adjusted for the production of other types of goods. In the second place, a large amount of research and design is done directly for industries by college and university teachers, and by post- and undergraduate students.

Experience shows that taking part in research into new technology which is then introduced on the shop floor at their future work helps college and university graduates to become highly competent. We describe this as a principle of the educational-scientific and industrial complex. In their first three years of college, Soviet students are given a fundamental general training in science and taught how to use scientific literature, and how to work with equipment and computer technology. In the last two years, they take their practical as major specialties where the most modern scientific and industrial equipment and technologies are in use. Leading experts are invited to conduct the practicals.

This principle now allows us to set up branches of educational departments to charge of the undergraduates at factories. These hundred educational departments of this sort now exist. Increasing numbers of colleges are now attaching to purpose-oriented education of students under direct long-term agreements with industry.

Today, Soviet colleges and universities constitute a major research organization. Nearly forty per cent of all the country's scientists, including half of its Doctors and Candidates of Science are concentrated here. There are five million three hundred thousand students and thousands of postgraduate students at our 801 colleges and universities.

Scientists of colleges and universities do a lot in many different fields in science and technology. In the Russian Federation, 150 colleges and universities have set up 30 research institutes, 25 design bureaus and more than five hundred laboratories. These research and design establishments have invented and introduced into industry numerous instruments, mechanisms, systems and technologies which provide for greater productivity and for economy in the use of materials and energy.

The 'geography' and range of the research interests of our colleges and universities make it possible for them to solve many different problems in the national economy.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

ECONOMY: A LARGE-SCALE EXPERIMENT

As of the beginning of 1984 heavy and transport engineering in this country operates under conditions of an economic experiment, writes in PRAYDA the Minister of Heavy and Transport Engineering of the USSR Sergiy Afanasyev.

The experiment aims at expanding the rights of the enterprises in planning and in economic activities, of their greater responsibility and keener interest in improving the end result of work, the latter being closer linked to quality of labour. The attention is focused upon the most important indicators, such as implementation of the plan according to the strictly observed range of products stipulated in the agreements, labour productivity, production cost, profits, quality.

Stable norms have been introduced. They provide the basis for funds for incentives, everyday and cultural facilities, for development of science and production. The work collectives manage these funds independently by developing housing construction, reconstructing and re-equipping their enterprises.

Certain balance can be drawn already. The enterprises in the industry have improved performance in the first quarter of 1984, as opposed to the first quarter of 1983. The increase in output was 4.0 per cent as against 3.7 per cent, labour productivity grew by 5.3 per cent as against 4.6. The entire increase in output was due to better labour productivity. The cost of production has been brought down by 1.4 per cent as against 0.9 per cent.

It is of particular importance that the products have been sold with a virtually complete fulfilment of the agreements — by 99.8 per cent. Last year the figure was merely 94.5 per cent.

This allows us to come to the conclusion that a number of principles of the experiment and the stable norms start to contribute in better end results.

NUCLEAR PROJECTS IN THE ENERGY PROGRAMME

V. I. Lenin described the State Plan for the Electrification of Russia (GOELRO), the first of its kind, as "the second Party programme". No less significant for this country is the today's Energy Programme, which incorporates an experience in comprehensive planning of the industry and encompasses all its sectors and its

complex life with the different spheres of the national economy.

The role which the Programme assigns to nuclear plants is described in LITBARNAYA GAZETA by Alexander Sheindlin, Director of the Institute of High Temperatures of the USSR Academy of Sciences. He notes that the plan for the development of nuclear power engineering in the European areas of the Soviet Union is an important part of the Programme. Today, the development of nuclear power engineering has two aspects. The existing reactors are being replaced by more modern installations which are called fast reactors. These will make it possible to use up practically the entire uranium fuel and not only one-hundred-and-fortieth part of it as presently. This removes the issue of the resources for the nuclear power engineering from quite a few scientific and technical problems. The Programme outlines the main directions in the solution of these problems.

Highly promising is also the use of atomic energy for heating. Today, nuclear combined heat-and-electricity stations are being built along with nuclear boiler plants. The nuclear power stations in this country are absolutely safe for the population of the surrounding areas, the outdoor stresses. We have solved the problem of radioactive waste disposal.

We have a unique town, the only one in the world, where peaceful atom has entered everyday lives of the people in a most delicate manner. The fast neutrons reactor in the town of Shvachinsk provides the inhabitants with electricity and even with drinking water which comes from the desalination plant powered by nuclear energy.

ROBOTS IN INDUSTRIES

Last year, Soviet industries operated more than seven thousand robots and manipulators. If we take into account that the annual increase in the number of robots is planned at approximately twice of last year's, it will become clear that we now face a rapidly developing reality, and not forecasts by science-fiction authors, writes the newspaper SOVIETSKAYA ROS-SIYA.

Under the current five-year plan, we are successfully implementing the programme for building standard robotic complexes and the first automated shops in industry. This year, the Krasnyy Proletary Worker in Moscow starts the manufacture of M-10 and M-20 robots. Specialists believe that they must, in many ways help in creating GAPs — flexible automated production units,

which are factories of the future in which people will only have to exercise the superior functions of control, monitoring and adjustment.

The development of robotics is going on under a single plan devised by the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, the newspaper stresses. Programmes are set up at the levels of individual industries and within certain regions.

Thus, a purpose-oriented comprehensive programme for the development, manufacture and introduction of robots has become for the USSR Ministry of Instrument-making industry of backbone for the retooling of its factories. It provides for the appearance of at least thirty thousand manipulators of the instrument-making factories till the end of 1988, this being only the first step towards robotization in that industry.

As for the regional management of the solution of similar tasks, an interesting experience has been gained in the city of Leningrad, which has a co-ordinating council on the problems of robotics for over six years. The results of the comprehensive approach are being put off to use — nearly half of all the types of manipulators operating in the city's industries have been designed by Leningraders, and major robotic production units Kirovsky Zavod, Leningradsky Elektromashinostroy Zavod, and others.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BAM ZONE

This year, a through traffic will start along the length of the Baikal-Amur Railway project. The completion of the work on the project coincides with the acceleration of the economic development of the underdeveloped areas, writes EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA. The Baikal-Amur Railway is not merely a railway, it is also the first step towards the development of the entire eastern economic project built over a vast, unsettled, and gravitating towards it. The area of the BAM zone, nearly a million and a half square kilometres, is divided into the east and west parts, as well as the sources for the national economy, as such, the regions of their development are such that require a profound scientific elaboration of an entire complex of intricate problems of mutual relations between them and Nature.

Work is being completed on the purpose-oriented comprehensive programme for the economic development of the BAM zone in the period until the year 2000 with details spelled out of assignment. This year, each year of the 12th five-year plan period. Taking into account that there have been dozens of government institutions and departments, and many branches, academic, scientific, research and design institutes.

IN THE BEGINNING THERE WAS THE LIGHT

This is believed by the organizers of the "Light and Energy" show-out stands from the National Technical Museum in Prague. Position with this phrase open a show in the Polytechnic Museum in Moscow, to mark its 25 years of cooperation with the Prague museum.

To familiarize visitors with the history of light sources and the

ways of saving electricity — this is the task undertaken by the sponsors of the show who attended the opening ceremony. A small hall features items describing the many-century road of the development of the light sources: 180 exhibits were brought to Moscow by the show organizers.

Nikolai VYSHINSKY

OF INTEREST

TALKING TRAFFIC LIGHTS

A green light lit up. And suddenly the traffic lights said in a human voice: "Dear pedestrians, transport is giving way to you."

This country's first talking traffic lights were recently installed at one of the central squares in Dnepropetrovsk in the city of Dnepropetrovsk. It was trained to talk by the Krasnyy Proletary Worker in Moscow, Yuriy Kozlov, and Nikolai Golitsin, specialists at a specialized maintenance section of the internal affairs department of the Dnepropetrovsk regional executive committee.

The automatic "traffic lights" will correctly orient pedestrians in poor sight, and warn the short-sighted in time.

Inventors from Krasnodar

The USSR Permanent National Fair in Moscow has opened an exhibition, "The Achievements of Inventors and Innovators from the Krasnodar Territory".

The Territory, which is located in the south of the European part of the USSR is by right described as the "Garden of Russia" because it is the main all-Union holiday resort.

The favourable natural conditions allow the local inhabitants — the Kuban Cossacks to grow rich harvests of crops. This, it may be said, is one of not so many areas in this country where rice can be grown. Located here is a scientific research institute of rice whose selectionists have produced a variety of rice, Sovnakhny (Sunny) which gives good yields in less favourable climatic conditions as compared with those which are necessary for the traditional breeds. The Institute co-operates with scientific research organizations from Hungary, Romania, Cuba, Vietnam and Laos with firms from Japan, France, West Germany and India, and with the International Rice Institute in the Philippines.

A whole number of instruments manufactured with participation of the inventors and innovators from the Krasnodar Territory of Measuring Instruments have been patented in foreign countries such as France and West Germany. The undoubted advantages as compared with similar instruments are featured by Voltage Comparator R-3003 designed for the generation of calibrated AC and DC voltages. It is covered by nine patents.



The Kuban Medical Institute is exhibiting a surgical retractor which allows to carry out operations on the veins with less trauma, which ensures a quick recuperation of the patients.

An interesting section at the exhibition is dedicated to the items produced by young inventors. The tractor Malyshev (The Tiny Toy) which you see in the photograph was made by students of a vocational industrial training school. It is suitable for ploughing and for cultivating small tracts of land and also for harvesting various crops.

Galina GLAZUNOVA
Photo by Viktor Khomenko

ENTERTAINMENT

Across seven countries

The USSR Academic Symphony Orchestra recently went on a successful tour of seven European nations — Czechoslovakia, Austria, Belgium, Liechtenstein, France, West Germany and Switzerland.

We have undertaken extensive tours in all these countries before, and the orchestra's artistic director and conductor, Yevgeny Svetlanov, has reported for this trip mostly commendable works by Russian and Soviet composers, that are little or totally unknown in the West. We were taking a risk, of course, but we knew it. Our performances were marked by warmth and mutual understanding with the audiences. Our music tore down the artificial barriers which prevent peoples from living in friendship.

Our trips lasted just over a month, in which period we crisscrossed 22 concerts.

Soon the toys of the House of the Cinema in Tashkent will be decorated by new murals, which are being done by Uzbek artists Bekhadyr Dzhalalov and Davlat Umarbekov. One of the panels is devoted to the struggle for peace and democracy. Part of this competition turns portraits of the laureates of the International Lenin Prize "For the Promotion of Peace Among Nations" artists P. Picasso and D. Siqueiros.

to the photo: a detail of the panel.



SOVIET DANCERS ENTHRALL PARIS

A new programme by the USSR Folk Dance Ensemble directed by Igor Moiseyev has captivated Parisians as was at once evident from the applause and ovations at the end of the show. This was the start of the ensemble's seventh tour of France.

When I watched today's performance, said noted French historian, writer and playwright Georges Sorel, who is the founder and permanent head of the Paris literary-artistic agency for cultural exchange, I could not help recalling the ensemble's first visit to Paris 29 years ago. It was an astonishing event: thousands of French men and women saw a Soviet folk dance ensemble for the first time. They

were delighted and captivated by the skill of the dancers. The ensemble is a cause for pride in the USSR and it is the pride of 20th-century art. It is a vivid proof of the care with which your country preserves its cultural legacy and passes it on to future generations. It is impossible to watch today's performance, G. Sorel said, without excitement and admiration. What we have seen is the summit of perfection. Moiseyev's latest production, the ballet "Night on the Bare Mountain", is a beautiful piece of art, enriched with the spirit of Gogol. This programme is bound to be successful with audiences and critics.

On the programme of the Days of Polish Culture in the USSR there were successful guest performances in Khabarovsk of the Warsaw ballet soloists Ewa Glowacka and Tadeusz Metacz. They performed on the stage of the Moldovian State Opera and Ballet Theatre in the "Swan Lake" by Tchaikovsky. The Polish dancers went sightseeing in the town and met Moldovan cultural personalities.



Ewa Glowacka and Tadeusz Metacz in the home of Moldovian Glib Salnicuk (right).

'THE BATTLE FOR MOSCOW'

In the autumn of 1941 fighting took place three hundred kilometres east of Moscow. Today this is the location for a film epic, "The Battle for Moscow", which is being filmed by Yuri Ozerov from his own script.

My previous films, "Liberation" and "Soldiers of Freedom", deal with the struggle against the Nazi invaders between the Battle of Kursk in 1943 and Victory Day.

The popularity of these movies both in this country and abroad shows that the story of the fight against fascism is still in the hearts of many people. Yet this story would be incomplete without dealing with the sources of victory and the se-

vere trials which fell to the lot of our Soviet people before 1943. This is the first year and a half of the war in this country. This gave us the idea for a trilogy of two-part films, "The Aggression" and "The Typhoon", under the common title of "The Battle for Moscow".

There are three hundred actors taking part in the film, and all the characters, from private up to marshal, are based on real people. The film is being made with the participation of film makers from Czechoslovakia and the German Democratic Republic.

The premiere of the epic will take place exactly forty years after the victory — on May 9, 1985 in two cities — Moscow and Prague.

BOOKS FROM FRATERNAL COUNTRY

A ten-day festival of Czechoslovak books is going on in Moscow. It is dedicated to the liberation of Czechoslovakia from the Nazi invaders, which is Czechoslovakia's national holiday. Books by Czech and Slovak authors enjoy popularity in the Soviet Union. Between 1946 and 1981, this country published 2,387 titles of their books and pamphlets in the total of more than 113 million copies.

An exhibition, "Children's Literature in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic" is opened at the Foreign Languages Library (1 Ulyanovskaya St.). Nearly five hundred publications for children and adolescents are on display.

PROFILES

ALEXEI DUDAREV

It is only two years ago that the name of Alexei Dudarev, a young playwright from Belyorus, appeared in Moscow theatre halls. His debut was remarkably successful — two Moscow theatres at once staged his play "The Threshold". The first nights (especially the premiere of Stanislavsky Theatre production) brought him the acclaim of audiences and critics. At the present time "The Threshold" is still in the repertoire of many of our theatres throughout the country, while new plays by Dudarev continue to win the stage. Recently, the Moscow Theatre in Moscow premiered his play "The Evening", while the Maly Theatre is rehearsing another of his plays.

Alexei Dudarev is only 33. He was born in a Belyorussian village where he lived for most of his life. He served in the army and later studied at the actors' department of the Belyorussian drama and art institute. Upon graduation he joined the Theatre for Young Spectators company as an actor. It was here that his first play, "The Choice" was premiered.

Alexei Dudarev is also a short story writer and several collections of his stories have been published. And he is already well known as the author of scripts for five films.

The latest film, for which he wrote the script, "Belye Rosy"



is at present to be seen in Moscow cinemas and is proving very popular with cinegoers. But the theatre still comes first for Alexei, though he has long quitted acting.

Literature and theatre make up a single whole in his creative career. The author's inside knowledge of the laws of the stage is felt in his wielding of skillful dialogue, in his precise construction of plot. His literary talent reveals itself in his language, in his ability to create profound and convincing characters, and to his clear-cut position. It is this that attracts

theatre and cinema directors to his work. And all are agreed that Dudarev is an interesting and easy person to work with. Many are surprised that the playwright agrees so easily to having his plays cut. But, it should be noted, he accepts only reasonable cuts. In this he is very attentive to actors' remarks, believing in their professional sense. He treats the director and tries to understand his interpretation. Alexei Dudarev says that he is not so much concerned that his text be left intact, as that a production or film accurately convey the main idea contained in a particular work, the idea which caused him to start writing it in the first place. This is the only condition he makes to director and actors.

What are the main themes of Alexei Dudarev's stories, plays and scripts? Every author writes about a man seeking for the correct path in life, says the playwright. And I also try to convey how difficult it is to traverse the long path of life and remain honest, kind and humane. This should be thought about right at the start of life. And I try to convey my concern for people and their destinies to audiences, to my contemporaries.

Natalya KUROVA

WHAT'S ON?

May 15-18

THEATRES

Kremles Palace of Congresses (Kremles). Bolshoi Theatre performances: 15 — A concert by the Bolshoi soloists. 16 — Verdi, "Il Trovatore" (opera). 18 — Hertel, "Vain Precautions" (ballet).

Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.). 15 — Khrennikov, "Ballet of a Hussar" (ballet). 16 — Shchedrin, "The Sea Gull" (ballet). 17 — Shchedrin, "Dead Souls" (opera). 18 — Molchanov, "The Dawns Here Are Quiet" (opera).

Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.). 15 — Tchaikovsky, "The Queen of Spades" (opera). 17 — Tchaikovsky, "The Snow Maiden" (ballet). 18 — Khrennikov, "Dorotha" (opera).

Operetta Theatre (6 Pushkinskaya St.). 15 — Karayev, "The Flory Gaskon". 17 — Strauss, "Die Fledermaus". 18 — Zhurbin, "Penelope".

FILMS

A Deceptive Bed and the zhenko Film Studio (USSR). A comedy about school ex-lovers from Gorky. Cinema: Central Cinema (25 Bakharzskaya, Metro Pavlovskaya). Festival of Caravan Films. Cinemas: "Prigorodnyy" (10/14 Kiyevskaya, Embankment). Works by Polish artists, recently bought for the collections of Gorky museums, are on display. Daily, except Monday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Metro Park Kultury, Trilovskaya B. 10.

CONCERT HALLS

Olimpiyskiy Sports Complex (Prospekt Mira). 15-18 — 2nd International Music Festival. Music by Russian, Polish, Czech and Slovak composers. 15 — "The Friends of the People" (opera). 16 — "The Friends of the People" (opera). 17 — "The Friends of the People" (opera). 18 — "The Friends of the People" (opera).

BUSINESS

Cooperation between machine-builders

Vost Alpine is taking vigorous steps in order to make more profound its cooperation with the Soviet partners in machine-building. An MNI correspondent has been told by Alfred Hutterer, manager of the engineering section of this Austrian government-owned firm. At present, the firm is studying a number of requests from Soviet organizations for possible deliveries on universal machine tools and robots.

The engineering section of Vost Alpine produces up to two hundred robots of various designs and 800 metal-working tools like lathes, milling machines and machining centres a year. The products of the firm's engineering section have been known in the Soviet market for nearly thirty years, with dozens of ma-

chines already supplied to the Soviet Union over this period. At the end of 1983, we received an order from the Soviet Machinebuilding Association for the manufacture of large lathes to three drilling pipes, said A. Hutterer. Besides, the section will deliver a number of machine tools for the metallurgical plant which is being built in the town of Zhitobin in Byelorussia with the firms of Vost Alpine and Danell from Italy taking part. In turn, we buy machine tools from the Soviet Union, A. Hutterer added. We have more than fifty different metal-working tools operating in our factories.

The interests of the engineering section of Vost Alpine are represented in the Soviet Union by the trading firm of OWEG.

20 years of Italian-Soviet Chamber of Commerce

"The Chamber makes a tangible contribution towards development of economic relations with the Soviet Union," this was declared by Rinaldo Ossola, president of the Italian-Soviet Chamber of Commerce, now marking its 20 years.

The Chamber has to its credit many projects whose implementation has advanced our mutual relations and our economic cooperation, he said. The Chamber has initiated a variety of industrial and agro-industrial exhibitions, technical conferences, symposiums, contributes towards a better exchange of information and organizes mutual visits of delegations and experts.

A special part is accorded to the Chamber in the implementation of the long-term programme of economic, industrial and technical cooperation between Italy and the USSR during the period ending in 1990, which was signed in the course of the recent visit to Moscow of the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs G. Andreotti.

To mark the anniversary, the Chamber's general assembly was held in Rome, the venue for the 1982 historic conference on international economic and financial matters, the first such event in which the young Soviet

Russia took part.

The past few years witnessed a particularly rapid development of economic ties between the USSR and Italy. The delegates stressed that these realistic prerequisites for further expansion of the trade and economic relations between the two countries in the interests of both Italy and the Soviet Union.

Leather goods from Czechoslovakia

On May 17, an exhibition of the Czechoslovak foreign trade organization Progoexport opens in the Estonian capital of Tallinn. The "Quality Leather Goods" exhibition, which is to be opened on the component of the Estonian Economic Exhibition, will display women's and men's handbags and shoulder bags, briefcases, suitcases and other leather goods.

For 35 years now, Progoexport has maintained business relations with Soviet partners. Thus, over these years, the volume of its exports to the Soviet Union has increased 165 times. Nearly one-fourth of the deliveries is made up of quality leather goods.

CMEA EXHIBITION IN MEXICO

The CAMEXPO-84 exhibition to mark the 35th anniversary of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance is to be held in the Mexican capital next November. It is arranged by chambers of commerce from Bulgaria, Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, Cuba, Poland, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia. This was told our correspondent by Diaz Mirela, Chairman of the Cuban Chamber of Commerce.

In fact, Mexico City will host the first ever joint exhibition of the CMEA countries, he continued. The joint exhibition and the national sections spread over an area of seven thousand square metres will display thousands of items which testify to the dynamic development of the economies of the countries of the socialist community and to the success of their cooperation to industrial, science, technology and other spheres.

Today, the CMEA countries, whose population makes up 9.6 per cent of the world's total, are producing one-third of the world's industrial products. The years between 1950 and 1982 saw an 8.3 per cent increase in the national incomes of the two socialist countries in Europe, Asia and America, and a 13 per cent growth in the gross product of their industries.

Alexander STOGANOV

First Soviet-Nicaraguan project

An energy training centre, the first project to be built under Soviet-Nicaraguan cooperation has been inaugurated here at an impressive ceremony. The occupants of its rooms and laboratories, which are filled with modern Soviet equipment, are future skilled cadres of power engineers who will be trained by Soviet teachers. Within the United States is carrying out a policy of undisguised state terrorism against

Nicaragua, mining its ports and arming the counter-revolutionary Somozista gangs, the Soviet Union gives that country humanitarian assistance, declared Rafael Cordova Rivas, Member of the Steering Council of the Government of National Reconstruction. The Soviet Union and Nicaragua are separated by thousands of kilometres, yet the whole of our people see the USSR as a close friend, the Nicaraguan leader stressed.

Down the Dnieper on a boat

At the end of April the "Sovetskoye Rossyio" motorboat left Kirovskan to open the 1984 foreign tourist season on the Dnieper. Meanwhile, in Kiev, the first tourists of the year were welcomed aboard the "Yevgeny Vashelich". River boating has become very popular with visitors from the GDR, West Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Yugoslavia and many other countries. With travel agents there buying complete tours.

Beginning July 1, the "Akhademik Viktor Glushkov", built in the GDR, will start plying the Dnieper between Kiev and Cherkassy (Romania). Apart from Ukrainian towns it will call at Ruse in Bulgaria. Last year there were four cruises along

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this route, this year there will be twice as many. A trip down the Dnieper offers an opportunity to live it up and get a lot of impressions. Europe's third largest river has played a key role in Ukrainian history. In early times, part of the route between the Varangians and the Greeks passed along the Dnieper. Foreign visitors will be offered a trip through Kiev, which marked its 1,500th anniversary last year. Travellers will enjoy the sight of the many surviving architectural monuments: of various epochs, including St Sophia's and Kiev-Pechersk Lavra, one of the new housing developments. They will also visit Kaney, Cherkassy, Zaporozhye, Novaya Kakhovka, Kherson and Odessa. Nina BASHIROVA

as well as performers from other countries. Greece Theatre at the Gorky Park of Culture and Rest, 19 Kiyevskaya, 15-18 — "Lata egnal" (opera), performed by the Durov Animal Theatre, trained by Lyudmila and Andrei Komisarov.

SWIMMING

Swimming Pool at the Lenin Central Stadium. 16 — Moscow championship. 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The last day of the competitions on May 16 will be decisive to choosing the Moscow lineup for the USSR championship.

RACING

Hippodrome 122 Begovoye St. 16 and 18 — Racing and trotting. 6 p.m. (both days).

WEATHER

May 15-18

In Moscow, city and region, warm weather is expected. Night temperatures of 7°-12° and of 18°-22° during the day. Showers and thunderstorms are expected at the end of the period. B wind veering to S.

During the last days because of heavy cloud temperatures did not rise and were therefore only 7°-14°C in Moscow, while at the same time sunny weather with temperatures of 20°-28°C was registered, 200 kilometres outside Moscow.

SPORTS

FOOTBALL

Lokomotiv Stadium (125 Bolshaya Cherkovskaya St.). 17 — Moscow Lokomotiv vs Volgograd Rotor. 7 p.m.